

#### REMARKS

The specification and abstract have been amended to correct minor informalities and improve its idiomatic English form.

Claims 9-15 are presented for consideration.

#### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), copies of the listed documents that are of record in related application no. 08/479,372 are not enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

#### CONCLUSION

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010.

All correspondence should continue to be directed to our  
below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attorney for Applicants

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